## BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

REGULATORY AUTH. Nashville, Tennessee

RECULATORY

In re: • 39 JUL Approval of the Interconnection Agreement Negotiated by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and ACI Corporation Pursuant to Sections 257 JUL Crand 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY 9-00 (9)

Docket No.

EXECUTIVE SECRE

## PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF THE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BETWEEN BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND ACI CORPORATION PURSUANT TO THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

COME NOW, ACI Corporation ("ACI") and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., ("BellSouth"), and file this request for approval of the Interconnection Agreement effective January 8. 1999 (the "Agreement") negotiated between the two companies pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, (the "Act"). In support of their request, BellSouth and ACI state the following:

- 1. ACI and BellSouth have successfully negotiated an agreement for interconnection of their networks, the unbundling of specific network elements offered by BellSouth and the resale of BellSouth's telecommunications services to ACI. A copy of the Agreement is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
- 2. Pursuant to Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, ACI and BellSouth are submitting their Agreement to the TRA for its consideration and approval.
- 3. In accordance with Section 252(e) of the Act, the TRA is charged with approving or rejecting the negotiated Agreement between ACI and BellSouth within 90 days of its submission. The Act provides that the TRA may only reject such an agreement if it finds that the agreement or any portion of the agreement discriminates

against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or the implementation of the agreement or any portion of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

- 4. ACI and BellSouth aver that the Agreement is consistent with the standards for approval. The approval of said Agreement provides for new competitors in the local exchange market, which will likely bring new services, lower prices and other benefits to the public.
- 5. Pursuant to Section 252(i) of the Act, BellSouth shall make the Agreement available upon the same terms and conditions contained therein.

ACI and BellSouth respectfully request that the TRA approve the Agreement negotiated between the parties.

This Standay of July, 1998.

Respectfully submitted,

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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**ACI CORPORATION** 

By:\_\_\_\_

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